

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 L-03 H-03 IO-14 NEA-14 DRC-01 /192 W

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R 191508Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8974

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 4895

SECSTATE PASS AID AND TREASURY

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJ: PROPOSAL TO INCREASE RESOURCED OF AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT

FUND--NORDIC VIEWS; BRITISH PROSPECTS

REF: ABIDJAN 4759 (NOTAL)

1. FURTHER TO REFTEL, I SPOKE WITH NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR PER NAEVDAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND (AFDF) FOR NORDIC COUNTRIES (17 PERCENT OF CAPITAL). DEPARTMENT REQUESTED NOT RPT NOT TO SHARE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WITH AFDB OFFICIALS.

2. FOUR NORDIC COUNTRIES REVIEWED PRESIDENT LABIDI'S PROPOSAL OF MID-MAY TO INCREASE RESOURCES OF AFDF AND, FOR VARIOUS REASONS, AGREED THAT NO RESPONSE COULD BE MADE AT RABAT MEETING, JULY 1-6:

A) SWEDEN NEEDS MORE TIME FOR GOVERNMENTAL AND PARLIAMENTARY

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ACTION ON PROPOSAL, BUT WOULD BE FAVORABLY INCLINED TO CONSIDER

IT IN BUDGET YEAR 1975-76.

B) NORWAY NEEDS MORE TIME FOR PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS, AS WELL AS WANTING TO KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY WILL BE EXPECTED OF IT FOR SPECIAL FUND SET UP BY SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA. AT APPROPRIATE TIME, NORWAY WILL GO ALONG WITH SOME INCREASE, IF NORDICS CAN BE UNANIMOUS.

C) FINLAND IS WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH SOME INCREASE, BUT NEEDS TIME FOR PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS.

D) DENMARK, IN SERIOUS FINANCIAL STRAIGHTS, IS VERY NEGATIVE TO PROPOSAL AT THIS TIME. NAEVDAL SAID DANISH OPPOSITION COULD SERIOUSLY DELAY ANY NORDIC INCREASE.

3. NORWAY'S BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE AFDB INVOLVE THE PROVISION OF ONE EXPERT CURRENTLY WORKING AT BANK, FINANCED BY GON, AND PLANS TO ADD A PROJECT ANALYST. GON HAS ALSO REQUESTED PARLIAMENT TO GRANT AFDB KR. 2 MILLION (ABOUT DOLS 350,000) FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND TO RENOUNCE RECUPERATION OF KR.500,000 (ABOUT DOLS 90,000) OWED NORWAY DUE TO REVALUATIONS. GON HOPES TO BE ABLE ANNOUNCE THESE GRANTS AT RABAT MEETING.

4. NORWAY IS ALSO CONSIDERING LOAN TO AFDB, BUT THIS WOULD BE COUNTER TO STANDARD NORWEGIAN AID POLICY OF ONLY PROVIDING GRANT ASSISTANCE TO LDC INSTITUTIONS.

5. I URGED AMBASSADOR NAEVDAL TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US OBSERVER DELEGATION TO RABAT MEETINGS, AND GAVE HIM DELEGATION CHIEF DISDIER'S NAME. I AM SURE DELEGATION WILL FIND HIM USEFUL, FRIENDLY SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON AFDF MEETINGS. IN TURN, HE WILL BE INTERESTED IN DEVELOPMENTS ON AID LOAN TO AFDB AND U.S. MEMBERSHIP IN AFDF. AS NOTED REFTTEL, DAVID HILTON, CANADIAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AFDF, ALSO INTERESTED AND CAN BE HELPFUL AND ALSO HAS DISDIER'S NAME.

6. BRITISH AMBASSADOR, PAUL HOLMER, REPRESENTING UK (AND YUGOSLAVIA) ON AFDF BOARD, WILL ALSO ATTEND. HAS NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS, BUT DOES NOT EXPECT POSITIVE UK RESPONSE AT THIS TIME. ALSO GAVE HIM DISDIER'S NAME.

SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DEVELOPMENT BANKS, DEVELOPMENT LOANS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ABIDJA04895
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740160-0561
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740634/aaaabcnd.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ABIDJAN 4759 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <24-Sep-2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSAL TO INCREASE RESOURCED OF AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND--NORDIC VIEWS; BRITISH PROSPECTS
TAGS: EFIN, XA, XZ, AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005